

pressure shown by a dynamometer was four degrees less with the right hand than with the left (fifteen degrees with the left, eleven with the right); three weeks later, ten with the left, seven with the right. The patient died on the 2d of February, lingual paralysis persisting. The autopsy revealed, in addition to the generalized sarcomata, a cortical lesion consisting of an excavation of five to six mm. in depth and in diameter, and caused by a sarcomatous hemorrhagic clot. This lesion was situated at the lower border of the inferior end of the precentral convolution. The conclusion from this case therefore is, that at the lowermost extremity of the precentral convolution there is a special center, the cortical center of the hypoglossus. G. W. J.

URINE OF TABETICS.—At the same session of the above society, Charles Livon and Henry Alezais (Marseilles) read a paper upon the Urine of Tabetics. From a series of experiments they arrive at the following conclusions:

1. There is in tabetics a tendency to a diminution in the amount of urea excreted in twenty-four hours.
2. Diminution of the total amount of phosphoric acid eliminated with a proportional increase of the phosphates.
3. Considerable variation in the amount of chlorides eliminated, with a tendency to an increase.
4. Intravenous injections of tabetic urine seem to be fairly toxic, twelve to forty-four cubic centimetres for each kilo. of animal, were required to produce death in dogs by this means.

G. W. J.

THE DISEASE OF THE TICS CONVULSIFS.—*Burot (de Rochefort), Gazette des Hôpitaux*, p. 1,042, 1887.

At the sixteenth session of the French Association for Advancement of Science held at Toulouse, Burot read a paper under the above title, which had first been employed by Charcot, and which affection Gilles de la Tourette has described as a nervous affection characterized by motor inco-ordination, with cholalia and coprolalia, the American Jumpers, the *Tatah* of Malasia, and the *Majirachik* of Siberia probably belonging to the same class. Burot's patient was

a girl, 19 years of age, very intelligent, and belonging to a family of the better class.

The convulsive twitchings occur in the face and upper extremities, and are accompanied by the sudden emission of inarticulate cries and of obscene and filthy words. At the age of six years, choreiform movements commenced in the eyes, face, neck, and arms. At twelve years, indistinct gutteral noises, as ouh, ouah ! were emitted. At fourteen, obscene and sacriligious words. She repeated all noises which attracted her attention, barking when she hears or even speaks of a dog. Gestures are sometimes imitated. She has various caprices. She not only does and says that which she does not want to, but cannot always do that which she does want to. Wishing to caress a cat, she calls it, but an impulse forces her to push it from her. There is no inco-ordination, but a true impulse. In this affection the reflexes are unduly excitable, whereas the voluntary nervous system is weakened. There is no inhibition of voluntary acts. All in all, it is an impulsive mania.

The author believes that the affection is curable, and his plan of treatment is to lessen the reflex excitement and to strengthen the will-power. This was attempted by moral influence (faith cure ?), and with beneficial result.

In the discussion, Dulony (de Rochefort) cites a case which shows that the affection may occur in persons of very strong will-power, and believes that it is closely allied to hysteria. Bezy (de Toulouse) also cites a similar case.

G. W. J.

#### THE LESIONS IN MORPHINOMANIA AND THE PRESENCE OF MORPHINE IN THE VISCERA.—Prof. Ball, *Gazette de Hôpitaux*, p. 1,053, 1887.

At the meeting of the French Academy of Medicine of October, 1887, Prof. Ball read a communication, as above. Thus far all investigations of morphinomania have been made upon the living organism, to the neglect of anatomical investigations. This may be ascribed to the rarity of autopsies in such cases. All that has been noticed anatomically is fatty degeneration of the heart, morphinic phthisis,